

Rockford Historic Preservation Commission

June 11, 2013 – 6:00PM – City Hall Conference Room B

Present: Janna Bailey, Gary Carlson, Vickie Kruger, Scott Sanders

Absent: Dave Coady, Becky Lichty, Alderman Jamie Getchius

Staff: Thaddeus Mack, Planner & Building Plans Examiner

Other: Interested Parties

Meeting was called to order at 6:02PM by Janna Bailey, Chairman

Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Alderman Jamie Getchius and Dave Coady were not present at the meeting

Public Hearing

None at this meeting

Approval of Minutes

A **MOTION** was made by Gary Carlson to **APPROVE** the minutes of the May 14, 2013 meeting as presented. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Vickie Kruger and **CARRIED** by a vote of 4-0

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Certificate of Appropriateness for 615 Oak St – Signage Replacement

HPCS gave a brief overview of the project as submitted and turned over further presentation to Dr. William McCoy.

Applicant presented the project and stated they were in a rush to move forward on this project. The applicant further stated there are two options, neither fully shown here. The first option is to duplicate the existing signage with new owner information. The second option is to utilize a sign more like the one presented. If a new sign is made, it would include both logos of this church and the affiliation. The church has not yet made up their mind on which option to go with. Would make a second application if need be to get signage later approved, and would be willing to seek only approval at this meeting for replacement of letters (for new name) going in place similar to existing.

Scott Sanders asked how were existing letters applied to building?

The applicant stated these were drilled into the face of the wall and are difficult to see this from the street. The co-pastor removed these previously.

Scott Sanders asked if the new sign graphics would go above the windows as is presently the case.

The applicant stated, yes, this would likely go back in place. The idea is not to have a sign on both sides. The applicant presented the graphic information as he requested from the sign company, however this is not reflected in information provided to the HPC.

Scott Sanders stated his concern is the signs as shown look "bill boardy" and his preference would be to see letters reapplied. Scott stated if the proposed logos are important, could these be reproduced in circular signs, individually mounted (emblem or medallion).

The applicant stated if they go with lettering on the outside, it would only say church name and only limit to one side of the building. The co-pastors' idea is to run this from one side of the building to the other.

Gary Carlson stated he was on the commission when the Jehovah's Witnesses came in for signage previously. Gary went by this property the other day and agrees with Scott to replace the letters on the building, and not go further with signage. The Jehovah's Witness people agreed to put the sign up at the corner of the parking lot opposite the street, a monument style sign.

The applicant asked if the thinking was these would be illuminated.

Gary Carlson stated this was going to be brick pillars on either side with sign suspended in between.

The applicant stated they would like to use part of this land for direction on this property and had a similar idea. The applicant asked what the HPC would think on duplicating letters on the building to the left of the door and later coming in for monument style sign to be located near parking lot.

Scott Sanders stated he would not want the new letters to be larger than the letters previously on the building.

Scott Sanders made a **MOTION** to **APPROVE** the Certificate of Appropriateness for applied sign letters containing text for the church name not to exceed the existing letter height at 615 Oak St. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Vickie Kruger and **CARRIED** by a vote of 4-0.

Certificate of Appropriateness for 1321 Cosper Ave – New Fence Installation

HPCS gave a brief overview of the submitted project as submitted and turned over further presentation to Brady Olson.

Scott Sanders asked the applicants how long they have been at this house.

The applicant stated since February.

Gary Carlson stated a fence example for this house has been provided, but nothing indicating the posts on the house. As this an arts and crafts house, this should probably have some decorative posts working with this style. Gary recommended moving the fencing on the side (facing Cosper) from the front edge of the house to the back edge of the house, but the rest of application looked good.

Scott Sanders asked the applicants and asked what are their thoughts on this and what is driving the fence location shown at the front.

The applicant stated the proposed location shown was in line with the front of the existing house and believed moving this to be in line with the back of the house would be an acceptable solution. The applicant asked what height would be accepted for this location.

The HPCS indicated the fence in this location would be permitted to be 6' in height at the rear of the property.

Gary Carlson made a **MOTION** to **APPROVE** the Certificate of Appropriateness application with the exception to move the fence facing Cosper to the rear corner of the house and increase height to 6' from 4', making certain poles for fencing are as tall as the top of the fence with a flat cap for 1321 Cosper Ave. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Scott Sanders and **CARRIED** by a vote of **4-0**.

Gary Carlson recommend looking at corner of Brownwood and C street (red brick bungalow) for an example of a similar styled fence.

Communication and Staff report

The HPC Secretary updated the Commission members on the following: The Midway Theater was in for the monthly status hearing as part of the second agreed order between the owner (Peter Crane) and the City of Rockford. The milestone set for June 3 per the Agreed Order required all prep work to be done in anticipation of a mid to late June delivery of the new trusses. At the request of the owner, Gene Werbicki and Thaddeus Mack (HPC Secretary) made a site visit to review the status of this project. All bond beams were in place for the new trusses, and a majority of steel straps were set for new truss connection. The next milestone for the owner is to have all new trusses and decking on site and erection of the roof and roof structure started with at least one bay completed (2 trusses in place with decking installed).

Adjournment

With no other business a **MOTION** was made by Scott Sanders to adjourn. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Gary Carlson and **CARRIED** by a vote of **4-0**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 P.M.
Submitted by Thaddeus Mack